

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING SAMPLES FOR
TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA-*Follow-up Sampling***

{A total of at least five (5) routine bacteria samples are required to be collected from your water system during the calendar month that you receive this kit. This requirement follows a recent water sample(s) at your facility that tested positive for bacteria. These 5 samples are in addition to the first set of recheck samples that were collected last month. All 5 sample bottles are being mailed to you, but you may not receive them all at the same time. If any compliance samples are due this month, they are included as part of these 5 samples. Any compliance sample(s) must be collected from your usual routine bacteria sampling location(s). The remaining samples do not have to be from your usual sampling location(s), but must be from within the distribution system. Follow the steps below for collecting the samples.} Any questions, please call Lindy Moceus at the Maine Drinking Water Program at (207) 287-2070.

1. Do not rinse out the bottle. The droplets of liquid or white powder inside are meant to be there. Keep cap on bottle until you collect the sample.
2. Remove any screens, hoses, or aerators from end of faucet.
3. Disinfect the faucet by dipping the end in a capful of bleach before turning on water. {This is optional, but a good idea.}
4. Run COLD water for at least 5 minutes to make sure it has not been sitting for a long time in pipes or tanks.
5. Turn water down so it does not splash. Run water at this rate for two minutes.
6. Remove any seal, if present, from the bottle. Uncap the bottle and fill with water only to the 120 ml line. If there is no line, then fill only to the bottle's shoulder so to leave an air space. Be careful not to touch the inside of cap or bottle. NOTE: If you drop the cap in the sink or on the floor, do not submit the sample using this kit. Request a replacement kit from the lab.
7. Screw cap on tightly.
8. Fill out the required information on sample form. **SIGN THE FORM!** The sample will not be processed unless the form has a signature!
9. Return kit with completed paperwork to lab. If mailed, use the enclosed label "Water Sample First Class Non-PMPC Direct to Augusta." **SAMPLES MUST ARRIVE AT LAB WITHIN 30 HOURS OF COLLECTION!**

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS....PLEASE CALL THE MAINE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM AT (207) 287-2070 OR THE LABORATORY AT (207) 287-1716.